THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government permitted two American warships to visit Kochi port during June 19-21, 2003 for rest and crew liberty following extended operations by these warships in support of U.S. operations in Afghanistan.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Military sale to Pakistan by Germany

2630. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Germany had lifted its ban on military sales to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) There has been no formal ban by Germany on military sales to Pakistan Germany however continues to have a very restrictive approach, in accordance with its own legislation, on export of arms and dual use items/technologies to Pakistan.

Regarding civil war in African countries

†2631. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several African countries like Liberia and Congo, etc., are engaged in a fierce civil war;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that 33 lakhs people have died in Congo alone and Liberia is still bearing the brunt;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that India being a leader of Non-Aligned Movement has failed to play its role in solving those problems; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.